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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

3 JULY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Suspected Mexican Mafia Charged in Series of Violent Attacks at LA County Jail

(U) Fourteen people, including 12 Los Angeles County jail inmates, have been charged relating to a series of violent prisoner assaults orchestrated by the Mexican Mafia, authorities announced last on 30 June. Members of the prison gang directed associates in the county jail to assault or kill other inmates who they suspected had violated the organization's rules. Known as "soldiers" or "sureños," gang associates carried out the attacks, including an assault on a person who owed money to the organization. Twelve men who are currently incarcerated have been charged in the case.

SOURCE: 2 July 2017, LA Times

(U) San Diego – Border Patrol Seizes \$1.7 million in Fentanyl and Heroin

(U) Border Patrol agents seized more than \$1 million worth of fentanyl and \$560,000 worth of heroin in cars stopped north of San Diego County on 28 June. Both drivers were arrested in separate busts in San Clemente and Murrieta. Agents stopped a vehicle on Interstate 15 and found 10 plastic-wrapped bundles of fentanyl in a cardboard box in the trunk. The other arrest took place about an hour earlier, when agents stopped a vehicle near the San Clemente checkpoint on Interstate 5.

SOURCE: 30 June 2017, San Diego Union Tribune

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arkansas – 28 Injured After Gunfire Erupts at Nightclub

(U) Little Rock - Clubgoers screamed and scrambled for cover as dozens of gunshots rang out during a rap concert in downtown Little Rock on 1 July, leaving 28 people injured from an 11-second melee that police quickly said was not related to terrorism. All the victims were expected to survive the shooting. Police believe the gunfire erupted amid a dispute among clubgoers and that multiple people fired shots. Twenty-five people suffered gunshot wounds, and three others had unrelated injuries.

SOURCE: 1 July 2017, Victoria Advocate

(U) New York – Former Employee Killed One and Injured Six in Hospital Attack

(U) New York City – A doctor who apparently harbored a longstanding grudge opened fire at a hospital where he used to work, killing one and injuring several others before taking his own life. Dr. Henry Bello, who hid the AR-15 under his white lab coat, tried to set himself on fire and then shot himself in the head at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center after he committed the attack. Five of the injured are hospital staff members, with three in stable condition and two in critical condition as of 1 July. The sixth person injured was a patient at the hospital and remains in stable condition. Bello was a Nigerian national who went to medical school in the Caribbean. He was not a licensed doctor in the US but working under a limited state-issued permit.

SOURCE: 1 July 2017, ABC News

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Brazil - Drug Kingpin Arrested

(U) Sorriso – Brazilian police have captured a drug kingpin who used plastic surgery to evade capture for almost 30 years. Luiz Carlos da Rocha - nicknamed "White Head" - is believed to be the leader of a massive cocaine empire in South America. Federal police said sentences handed down to Rocha amount to more than 50 years of prison time. The drug kingpin had been living in the city under the assumed name Vitor Luiz de Moraes. Agents compared old known photos of Rocha to the images of the new suspect, and concluded that Luiz Carlos da Rocha and Vitor Luiz are the same person. SOURCE: 2 July 2017, BBC

(U) Mexico – 19 Killed in Clashes Near Beach City

(U) Mazatlan – Mexican authorities reported at least 19 people died in clashes involving armed men and security forces in northwestern state of Sinaloa, where homicides have spiked dramatically following the capture and extradition of convicted drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman. The violence began with a shooting on 30 June that killed two men near a department store in the town of Villa Union. Officials attributed it to warring drug gang members responsible for recent violence in the state, which is home to Guzman's Sinaloa cartel. Police were alerted by emergency calls, and municipal officers encountered the suspected attackers as they were riding in several pickup trucks.

SOURCE: 1 July 2017, Fox News

(U) Spain – Danish Man Suspected of Fighting for ISIS Arrested

(U) Madrid – Spanish police have arrested a Danish citizen suspected of having fought for ISIS in Syria. Spain's Civil Guard reported the man was arrested in the southern Spanish city of Malaga on 1 June. Spanish police say the suspect is a 29-year-old man who was born in Syria and acquired citizenship in Denmark. The Civil Guard says that since 2015 Spain's police and security services have arrested 224 people suspected of belonging to or aiding Islamic extremist groups.

SOURCE: 1 July 2017, AP News

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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